Australian Government

A Safer Australia

Australia's Counter – Terrorism and Violent Extremism Strategy 2025

JANUARY 2025

The Australian Government acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia where we gather, live, work and stand. We acknowledge all Traditional Custodians, their Elders past and present, and we pay our respects to their continuing connection to their culture, community, land, sea, water and skies.

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Foreword

The threat of terrorism and violent extremism is dynamic and constantly evolving. There are enduring and known threats alongside emerging threats, reflecting the complex and changing social, political and security environment.

A growing number of Australians are being radicalised to violence, and radicalised to violence more quickly. More Australians are embracing a diverse range of extreme ideologies and a willingness to use violence to advance their cause. We are witnessing an increase in anti-government and anti-authority violent extremism, anti-Semitism and Islamophobia, and the use of emerging technologies to enable, produce, disseminate and amplify messages of hate and violence at an unprecedented scale and pace.

Australia must remain alert to the dynamics that contribute to violent extremism and terrorism within Australia and in our region. The raising of the National Terrorism Threat Level back to 'PROBABLE' on 5 August 2024 reflects our complex and changing social, political and security environment. Australia must be responsive to an ever evolving security landscape. Effective prevention is our best defence. As a first step this means building capacity within our communities to guard against the threat of violent extremism. A second critical step focuses on early identification, intervention and diversion of individuals on the path to violence who are motivated by extremist ideologies. This requires bolstering support to young people at risk, and strengthening partnerships between government, communities, academia, and industry.

We will focus our efforts on Australia's young people, who are particularly susceptible to radicalisation and recruitment both online and in-person, and ensure their perspectives are included in approaches to countering violent extremism. We will also focus on early prevention by equipping our communities with greater support and referral pathways for people they are concerned about.

Our efforts to counter enduring threats will continue through our strong and effective intelligence and law enforcement activities and engagement. We will continue to work closely with our domestic and international partners, and ensure effective cooperation at all levels of government and society to address the enduring and emerging threats.

Keeping Australians safe is our primary focus, and we will continue to review and evolve our approach to meet the changing environment.

Hon Tony Burke MP
Minister for Home Affairs

Hon Mark Dreyfus KC, MP
Attorney-General

Hon Dr Anne Aly MP
Minister for Youth

Executive summary

Australia's Counter-Terrorism and Violent Extremism Strategy 2025 (the Strategy) marshals the strengths of the Australian community to reinforce our national resilience and reduce current and future threats posed by terrorism and violent extremism.

The Strategy is for all Australians to develop a greater understanding of the evolving threat and what Australian governments are doing to respond to those challenges.

The principles of partnership, cooperation and collaboration have underpinned Australia's approach to countering terrorism and violent extremism for over four decades. Our approach is mature, with strong coordination between the Commonwealth and state and territory governments, international partners, communities and industry.

The changes in Australia's security environment highlight the continued need for a flexible whole-of-nation response to support and strengthen our communities and their capacity to respond to violent extremism risks and threats, as well as our law enforcement, intelligence and security agencies to identify, investigate and respond to terrorism incidents at home and abroad. Only through collective and sustained efforts, and the inclusion of diverse, relevant and positive voices from every part of the Australian community (families, community groups, faith leaders, non-government organisations, business, academia and industry), can we ensure Australia remains a safe place for everyone.

Our approach aims to develop and foster a shared understanding of what terrorism and violent extremism are and what government, family, community, and industry can do to prevent individuals from resorting to violence to advance their cause. This requires each of us to be aware of when and where to seek help for a person displaying concerning behaviours and ensure that those in key frontline positions are able to identify behaviours of concern. It also requires us to ensure that those who are qualified to address behaviours of concern have the resources to support early intervention for those at risk.

As the challenges of terrorism and violent extremism continue to evolve and detection and disruption become harder, Australian communities play a vital role in keeping themselves and others safe through:

- Reporting concerns of radicalisation early, to support early intervention for those on a pathway to violent extremism,
- Keeping safe through "ESCAPE. HIDE. TELL." in the event of an incident,
- Following safe travel advice provided by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), and
- Reporting concerns to the National Security Hotline to support intelligence and law enforcement efforts.

In turn, it is the role of Government to ensure that members of the public have the information needed.

This Strategy will ensure all aspects of society are harnessed to keep Australians safe, focussing on:

- Prevention through supported and resilient communities,
- Protecting young people from violent extremism,
- Reducing violent extremist content online,
- Managing enduring and emerging threats, and
- Strengthening domestic and international partnerships.

Key definitions

Terrorist act: under the *Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cth)*, a terrorist act is an act, or a threat to act, that is done to advance a political, religious or ideological cause with the intention of:

- Either:
  - intimidating the public or a section of the public, or
  - coercing, or influencing by intimidation, any government, and
- which causes one or more of the following:
  - death, serious harm or endangers the life of a person,
  - serious damage to property,
  - a serious risk to the health or safety of the public,
  - a serious interference with, disruption to, or destruction of critical infrastructure such as a telecommunications or electricity network.

Violent extremism: acts of or support for violence to achieve social, political or legal outcomes or in response to specific political or social grievances.

Pathways to violent extremism: the process by which an individual or group becomes willing to perpetrate acts of violence, including terrorism, under a belief that the violence is justified to achieve social, political or legal outcomes.

Politically motivated violence: acts or threats of violence or unlawful harm that are intended or likely to achieve a political objective, whether in Australia or elsewhere, including acts or threats carried out for the purpose of influencing the policy or acts of a government, whether in Australia or elsewhere; or acts that involve violence or are intended or are likely to involve or lead to violence (whether by the persons who carry out those acts or by other persons); and are directed to overthrowing or destroying, or assisting in the overthrow or destruction of, the government or the constitutional system of government of the Commonwealth or of a state or territory.

Ideologically motivated violent extremism: denotes support for violence to achieve political outcomes or in response to a specific political or social grievance. It includes nationalist, racist, anarchist, misogynist and revolutionary motivations, and grievances related to a specific issue.

Religiously motivated violent extremism: denotes support for violence to oppose or achieve a specific social, political or legal system based on a religious interpretation.

**Extremists can also adopt elements of both religious and ideological beliefs, which can motivate them to justify acts of violence.*

Mixed, unclear and unstable ideologies: ideological motivations that are less tied to a single, clear and coherent ideology and may be fluid / unstable, mixed / hybrid or unclear.

Radicalisation: When a person's thinking and behaviour become significantly different from how most of the members of their society and community view social issues and participate politically, and the person begins to justify, advocate, promote, or use violence to achieve a political, religious or ideological goal.

Intervention program: programs designed to disengage individuals from a path of violent extremism or terrorism, and reintegrate them into their community through individualised support such as physical and mental health programs, community integration programs, and mentorship.

Violent extremist material: material that describes or depicts serious violence, provides instruction on engaging in serious violence, or supports or facilitates serious violence; and a reasonable person would consider that the material is intended to directly or indirectly advance a political, religious or ideological cause and the material is intended to assist, encourage, or induce a person to:

- engage in, plan or prepare for an intimidatory act; or
- do a thing that relates to engaging in, planning or preparing for an intimidatory act; or
- join or associate with an organisation that is directly engaged in the doing of any intimidatory act, or that is preparing, planning, assisting in or fostering the doing of any intimidatory act.

Understanding Australia's threat environment

In August 2024, the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO) raised the national terrorism threat level back to PROBABLE, noting Australia's security landscape is being challenged by new threats with concerning trajectories. The landscape is a reflection of the social and political environment in which we live, where trust in government and our democratic processes is eroding.[1]

Four core characteristics of the threat landscape are: the threat from lone actors; the acceleration of radicalisation to violence; the prevalence of minors embracing violent extremism; and the different drivers of violent extremism.

More Australians are adopting a diverse range of extreme ideologies and are willing to use violence to advance their cause. Events overseas and domestic issues can generate new tensions or inflame existing ones. Efforts to prevent terrorism in Australia include being alert to the tensions that affect our communities, and identifying boundaries where online communications spill over into physical action.

Both domestically and overseas there have been recent surges in political polarisation and intolerance, increased incidents of hostile debate and violent protests, and growing anti-authority beliefs. Trust in institutions is eroding, conspiracy theories are gaining traction, and provocative and inflammatory behaviours are being normalised. Some individuals are combining multiple beliefs to create new hybrid ideologies to justify violence. Many of these individuals will not necessarily espouse violent views, but will be vulnerable to language or commentary that incites violence.

The Commonwealth and states and territories work hand in hand to counter terrorism and violent extremism. This interoperability and consistency between governments is crucial to ensuring a safer Australia.

1 https://scanloninstitute.org.au/publications/mapping-social-cohesion-report/2023-mapping-social-cohesion-report
https://www.edelman.com.au/trust/2023/trust-barometer

The Strategy works alongside a number of other whole-of-government documents specific to violent extremism and terrorism. More directly, it is supported by a National Counter-Terrorism Plan which outlines how we all must face the challenge of terrorism together. The Plan sets out the ways Australia prepares for, responds to, investigates and recovers from terrorist acts and is publicly available through *www.nationalsecurity.gov.au*.

Commonwealth

Commonwealth Government agencies are responsible for coordinating whole of government efforts; identifying security threats and providing intelligence assessments; determining the national terrorism threat level; determining prevention strategies; maintaining national policies and legislation, planning capabilities and operational responses; supporting states and territories to counter violent extremism and respond to terrorist threats; declaring national terrorist situations in consultation with affected states and territories; and international representation on counter-terrorism issues.

States and territories

States and territories are the primary responders to terrorist incidents within their jurisdictions. All states and territories are responsible for developing and maintaining policies and plans, managing their counter-terrorism and countering violent extremism capabilities, working with the Commonwealth Government on national terrorist situations, declaring an incident within their jurisdiction to be a terrorist act and contributing to the national response.

Combined responses

Each state and territory has a Joint Counter-Terrorism Team, comprised mainly of state and territory law enforcement, the Australian Federal Police (AFP) and ASIO. Joint Counter-Terrorism Teams enable the consistent management of investigations, disruptions and support to prosecutions of terrorist activity.

Enduring threats

OFFSHORE ACTORS

Significant global events and instability overseas provide opportunities for violent extremists to advance their causes. Contemporary events can and have been exploited to fuel grievance narratives domestically. Terrorism can occur anywhere. Australians living, working or travelling overseas have been killed, injured, or kidnapped in terrorist incidents, including attacks targeting crowded places. Terrorist attacks can also harm Australian diplomatic, business and defence interests. Offshore actors remain the most dangerous enduring terrorism threat globally. Offshore actors can inspire or enable attacks in Australia through propaganda and direct communication with individuals onshore – whether motivated by religiously motivated violent extremism or ideologically motivated violent extremism ideologies.

RELIGIOUSLY MOTIVATED VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Sustained efforts by the international community have weakened groups affiliated to offshore religiously motivated violent extremist actors such as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and al-Qa'ida, but they remain an active and enduring risk, including in our near region. These groups continue to operate in various parts of the world and retain the intent to obtain support and inspire attacks in Australia, particularly lone actor and low capability attacks.

IDEOLOGICALLY MOTIVATED VIOLENT EXTREMISM

The threat from ideologically motivated violent extremism, particularly transnational and domestic nationalist and racist violent extremism, also persists as white nationalist groups attempt to recruit individuals, put them on the path to extremist violence, and seek public attention and support to assist these efforts. Nationalist and racist violent extremist views persist, and adherents are weaving new issues into their conspiracy theories and anti-establishment views. Small cells and individuals directed or inspired by these organisations and their ideologies will continue to attempt to conduct attacks. Currently, the vast majority of racist and nationalist groups are more focused on recruitment and radicalisation rather than attack planning, however nationalist and racist violent extremist views can escalate into an intention to undertake lone actor attacks, sometimes quickly and without warning.

HIGH-RISK TERRORIST OFFENDERS

Australia has a number of terrorist offenders in custody. Some of these offenders have disengaged from violence and are assessed to no longer pose a threat but would nonetheless benefit from support services. However, others remain credible threats as they may continue to adhere to violent extremist ideologies and may promote and engage in violence after release.

The high-risk terrorist offenders post-sentence order scheme under the Criminal Code allows a state or territory Supreme Court to make a continuing detention order or an extended supervision order for those who may remain a threat. This can be for a period of up to three years at a time.

The Court must be satisfied that the terrorist offender poses an unacceptable risk of committing certain offences under the Criminal Code if released into the community and, for a continuing detention order, that there is no less restrictive measure available that would be effective in preventing the unacceptable risk. Since 2020 (as at November 2024), two continuing detention orders and four extended supervision orders have been made in relation to four offenders.

Similarly, the control order regime in the Criminal Code allows the Federal Court to make orders imposing certain obligations, prohibitions and restrictions on a person. The Court must be satisfied the order will substantially assist in protecting the public from a terrorist act or preventing the person from supporting or facilitating a terrorist act. A person does not need to have been previously convicted of a terrorist offence to be subject to a control order. Control orders can last up to 12 months for an adult or three months if the person is aged between 14 and 17.

Emerging challenges

INCREASED YOUTH ENGAGEMENT WITH VIOLENT EXTREMISM

The growth in the number of young people engaging in violent extremist ideologies continues to be a concerning feature of Australia's security environment. Our international partners are experiencing similar trends, and the prevalence of violent extremist content online means this material has a wider reach and is more difficult to identify, contain and manage.

Since the start of 2024 there has been a resurgence in young people in ASIO and AFP priority counter-terrorism caseloads. The number of young clients in Australia's violent extremism intervention programs also continues to grow.

The many emotional, physical and social changes that young people experience, combined with limited agency and power, can make this a challenging time for them to explore their values and develop suitable strategies to shape their world. Supporting young people to be safe both online and in the physical environment and to respect the rights of others is critical for their wellbeing and to prevent them from being harmed, or from harming others.

Becoming involved in violent extremism is inherently harmful for young people, potentially socialising them to attitudes and beliefs that negatively impact the quality of their social relationships, their general wellbeing, and their future employability. It may also result in young people committing a variety of offences. Early intervention can help prevent a young person from engaging in violent extremism, support them to build a more positive future, and divert them from involvement in the criminal justice system.

Violent extremists often exploit vulnerabilities to appeal to, recruit and radicalise others. Where minors are socially isolated, the online environment can provide a social outlet and offer a sense of belonging. This can increase exposure to violent extremist material both intentionally and unintentionally, if appropriate safeguards are not in place. Where an individual views extremist content online (independently of direct engagement with a particular extremist figure or organisation) algorithms can create an 'echo chamber' where only content that reflects or reinforces the user's view of extremist narratives and ideologies is presented, that is, content specifically designed for recruitment. Limited exposure to diverse perspectives can ultimately contribute to the risk of self-radicalisation and progression from extremist material and beliefs to violent extremist material and beliefs. In other instances, people may actively seek out extremist material to justify their worldview.

Agencies, service providers and community members who interact with vulnerable young people require support to build their capacity to identify and refer individuals exhibiting behaviours consistent with radicalisation to violent extremism. Such behaviours may also be indicative of other issues including family breakdown, mental ill-health or trauma. Therefore it is important that individuals have ready access to the appropriate resources and support they need to initiate early interventions or referrals.

This Strategy focuses on resources for frontline workers to engage and support young people who are exhibiting concerning behaviours. Achieving this will require increased cooperation and coordination between the Commonwealth and state and territory governments, and building on the existing deep collaboration between all Australian governments.

MIXED, UNCLEAR AND UNSTABLE IDEOLOGIES

While some individuals continue to adhere to known violent extremist ideologies, an increasing number are now radicalised principally or solely because of a personal grievance or perceived injustice, conspiracy theories or broad anti-authority views. Grievance has long been a feature of violent extremist ideologies and these personal grievances or perceived injustices have been a mobilising factor to violence for some individuals. The difference we are now seeing is the increasing centrality of grievance in motivating individuals to radicalisation - the ideologies to which they adhere are often 'flags of convenience', reflecting a transitory ideology built around a core grievance, and subject to rapid change.

Some individuals switch between different ideologies or groups (fluid or unstable), merge components from different ideologies (mixed or hybrid), or adopt a vague or incoherent ideological mix to justify their violence (unclear). Anti-government and anti authority sentiments along with conspiracy-driven motivations lead some people to support violence to achieve their aims. Identifying and investigating violent extremists who do not adhere to distinct or consistent ideologies and who avoid known extremist environments presents novel challenges for law enforcement and security agencies. It also creates significant challenges for disengagement programs, as therapeutic measures are difficult to tailor if ideologies are not clear or keep changing. The unique nature of these mixed or unclear views may make it challenging for families, work colleagues and friends to identify patterns of concerning behaviour requiring them to seek the advice and support of experts.

THE USE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

The sophistication and maturation of existing online platforms and technological advances, including the increasing availability of artificial intelligence, are significant enablers of violent extremist messaging, facilitating the spread of propaganda and violent extremist material. Online communities, such as online gaming and gaming-adjacent platforms, facilitate new connections across the world at scale and pace, expanding the reach of harmful content.

Whilst violent extremists have long utilised digital technologies to communicate, recruit and plan activities, the number of platforms available on the surface web and dark web have increased both the scale and variety of uses.

Emerging technologies and advancements in existing technologies, including the near ubiquity of encrypted messaging, can be used to prevent law enforcement and security agency visibility and impede investigation.

Advancements, including generative artificial intelligence, also continue to increase the scale, speed and spread of online mis- and disinformation which in turn is amplifying violent extremist narratives. Left unchecked, mis- and disinformation erode trust in democratic and civic discourse, electoral processes and public institutions, undermine public health efforts and are a foreign interference vulnerability.

Social media has become a key enabler of volatility, acting as a gateway and platform for global influences and violent ideologies to promulgate at scale and volume. This includes closed platforms and forums as well as mainstream social media platforms. The algorithms on which platforms' business models are based can create echo chambers by delivering content which drives self-reinforcing behaviours. The live streaming of violent attacks and real-time announcements of plans and manifestos are facilitated in this online environment and potentially capture large numbers of susceptible viewers.

Online gaming presents a particular challenge in the current environment. Violent extremist groups and individuals are increasingly using online gaming chat rooms to identify, recruit and radicalise young people, with interactions presenting in mainstream, commercially-available games for malign purposes. The breadth of the gaming context allows multiple demographics to be targeted through both in-game chat rooms and game agnostic social platforms. The use of gaming related social media, streaming and in-game or offline messaging are being used to normalise narratives associated with violent extremism.

Robust legislative frameworks

Australia has robust legislative frameworks to manage terrorism and violent extremism. Our counter-terrorism legislation is well established, and provides effective mechanisms for cooperation between Commonwealth, state and territory agencies.

The Commonwealth has continued to strengthen its already robust legislative framework responding to the threat of terrorism and violent extremism through the criminalisation of relevant behaviour and empowering of law enforcement and intelligence agencies to appropriately respond to the evolving threat. For example, the *Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment (Prohibited Hate Symbols and Other Measures) Act 2023* introduced new criminal offences which prohibit the possession and dissemination of violent extremism material, including instructional material. Reflecting the joint responsibilities of Commonwealth, state and territory agencies, such offences are available to all levels of law enforcement to support efforts to respond to violent extremist behaviour. The new legislation also makes it an offence to use a carriage service (internet or mobile network) to access, share, advertise, promote or solicit violent extremist material and possess or control violent extremist material.

Other national security legislation to support our broader counter-terrorism framework includes:

- The *Online Safety Act 2021 (Cth)* gives the eSafety Commissioner powers to protect Australians from online harm, including by requiring digital platforms, search engines, app stores and internet service providers to remove, cease linking to, cease hosting or cease providing access to certain material that depicts, promotes, incites or instructs in terrorism,
- Expansion of the Australian Victims of Terrorism Overseas Payment to cover broader injuries, including psychological or psychiatric injuries, and
- Strengthening of our citizenship cessation framework.

These recent changes support existing measures, such as criminal offences that prohibit membership or providing training, funds or support to a terrorist organisation.

Our Strategy

Prevention through supported and resilient communities

A joined-up approach between government and strong, supported and resilient communities is Australia's first line of defence against terrorism and violent extremism.

The most effective way to protect Australia from terrorism and violent extremism is through prevention and early intervention, including initiatives which enhance our capabilities to meet evolving threats, enabled by close coordination between federal, state and territory governments. Resilient individuals and communities are those who can identify, navigate and effectively use a range of resources to help protect and sustain community wellbeing when faced with challenges and difficulties.

Resilient communities are best placed to intervene with at-risk individuals to re-establish a sense of belonging and capability in the individual. They can better connect at-risk individuals with early intervention and prevention services that address outstanding needs including mentoring programs, psycho-social support, faith-based leadership and positive social connections. The strength and resilience of a community is also vital in the recovery from terrorist incidents, providing a foundation for efforts to restore social, economic and environmental wellbeing.

WHAT WE ARE ALREADY DOING

Engagement with community and faith leaders provides an alternative pathway for those becoming disengaged from their communities and strengthens alternative narratives to violence. Trusted community and faith leaders play a key role in building community resilience and fostering community cohesion.

WHAT WE WILL STRENGTHEN

- Provide increased support for early intervention resources through the development of the **National Support and Intervention Program (NSIP)**. This is an Australia-wide program, administered by the Australian Government, and delivered by states and territories. Working with states and territories according to their capabilities, the program aims to support individuals along the entire spectrum, from those beginning to explore violent extremist ideas to those planning attacks, on remand, in custody or post release.
- Provide funding for the National **Youth and Mental Health Advisory Group** to advise government on approaches to youth extremism, and incorporating youth perspectives in awareness raising initiatives on countering violent extremism.
- Enhance early identification and intervention through information and awareness resources, to equip our community to identify and counter the appeal of violent extremist narratives as a solution to grievances, and help individuals and communities identify when someone is in the early stages of radicalisation to violent extremism.
- Provide greater availability of support and resources for Australians who are concerned about someone by **rolling out the New South Wales 'Step Together' program nationally**. The program is a successful helpline, online referral tool and digital support service that allows people in the community to receive support from qualified case managers in real-time.
- Provide clear and consistent communication to the Australian community about the threats to Australia, to support individuals to identify and connect susceptible members of the Australian community to support services. This will develop national understanding and language around what violent extremism and terrorism are and will help identification and reporting.
- Update **ESCAPE. HIDE. TELL**. resources to improve accessibility for indigenous people, people with a disability and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities.
- Build community-led programs for preventing and intervening early with at risk individuals and addressing the root cause of radicalisation by deepening our engagement with education, youth, social services and health organisations.
- Reduce known threats through supporting where appropriate the rehabilitation and reintegration of convicted high-risk terrorist offenders into the community by building on the efforts of longstanding evidence-based joined-up services.
- Continued engagement with key partners at regional and international levels to ensure harmonisation of efforts to prepare and respond to the impact of international events.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

In the event of an attack follow the ESCAPE. HIDE. TELL. principles to keep yourself and others around you safe. For more information on what to do in an attack go to www.nationalsecurity.gov.au/what-can-i-do/what-to-do-in-an-attack.

BE AWARE

Be aware of the signs of radicalisation in the people close to you. While there are not always clear signs, and the signs vary for all individuals, there are some common factors that research has found to be present amongst a majority of individuals with violent extremist views. Key factors to be aware of include:

- Significant behavioural changes in major areas of a person's life, including their ideology, social relations or criminal activity.
    - Ideology:
        - A sudden shift in ideology,
        - Promotion of strict and literal understanding of a given belief,
        - Increasing use of language that vilifies or discriminates against others,
        - Use of hate rhetoric, blaming others, identifying an enemy and placing blame for their issues on that group.
    - Social Relations:
        - Individuals starting to pull away from their normal mainstream activities and friendship groups,
        - Starting to create conflict and tension with family and friends over political or ideological views,
        - Starting to engage in new groups or with other individuals who have common/ shared views.
    - Criminal activity:
        - Individual may start to 'act up' to draw attention to their beliefs, including acts of vandalism, property damage, trespassing or engaging in violent protests,
        - Making threats of violence,
        - Become increasingly nervous about the actions of Government and security agencies and anti-authority and using this to justify criminal activities.

The online signs:

- Increased secretiveness around internet use, spending an increasing amount of time online, accessing and looking at violent extremist content, including:
    - Online instruction and training manuals about making explosives or other methods to undertake violence,
    - Violent extremist literature, images and/or video clips that advocate the use of violence or other illegal behaviour to promote a cause,
    - Increased time on fringe and alt-tech forums and message boards,
    - Adopting an 'Us vs Them' perspective often with clear 'enemies',
    - Sympathising, or identifying with, violent extremist ideology and groups and adopting similar rhetoric,
    - Showing intense political, ideological or religious interest accompanied by increasing anger about issues they feel are unfair or unjust,
    - Demonstrating an intolerance to alternative views.

These online signs can manifest into radicalisation by using online social networking platforms to access large amounts of violent extremist content and promote violence or other criminal behaviour to advance a cause.

There are a range of further resources available on the Step Together website (available to individuals from all jurisdictions), including resources to help you identify signs of violent extremist and how you can support and safeguard those who may be vulnerable and on a path to violent extremism.

REPORT CONCERNS

If you think someone may be heading down a path of engaging with violent extremist material and need advice on what you can do to help, the Step Together website provides a range of information and relevant services, and an anonymous chat function to assist you with understanding your concerns and options to support those you are worried about and yourself.

Understanding concerning behaviour and the appropriate place to refer the person you are concerned about is the first step. It is important to not assume that a single concern will lead an individual to radicalise, but dealing with such issues early may prevent a pathway to violent extremism in the future.

There are multiple places you can receive support for referring someone to a disengagement program. The Step Together website has a range of relevant services including disengagement programs, community support networks, health and education support.

The purpose of these services is to help all Australians cope with complex issues, reach their potential and become constructive members of the community. By reaching out for help and support, you are referring those you are concerned about to professional services designed to keep them safe and reduce harm to themselves and the community.

If you are concerned someone you know may be an imminent threat to the community please contact your local police agency and the National Security Hotline. This will enable immediate actions to identify and help prevent any immediate harm to the community. The triage process and any subsequent investigation may also assist in identifying support services and assistance needed for the individual to disengage from violent extremism and prevent harm.

Terrorism and violent extremism are complex issues, and it can be difficult to know what may be important, however reporting of this kind is a major asset to our joint effort to protect the Australian community.

National Security Hotline

Phone within Australia: 1800 123 400

Phone outside Australia: +61 1300 123 401

Teletypewriter: 1800 234 889

SMS: 0429 771 822

Email: hotline@nationalsecurity.gov.au

Step Together – available to individuals in all jurisdictions

Phone: 1800 875 204 (available 9am – 5pm AEST Monday to Friday)

Website: StepTogether.nsw.gov.au (prior to the national rollout)

Protecting young people from violent extremism

Protecting young people from negative or destructive influences including violent extremism requires a holistic approach that takes into account the myriad and complex factors that can lead a young individual down a path of violent extremism. Recognising that violent extremism is an expression of a number of causal factors enables the delivery of programs that treat the root cause of violent extremism. Focussing solely on violent or extremist behaviour without accounting for the individual circumstances of young people risks over securitising them and/or misdiagnosing serious issues such as ill mental health, trauma or abuse.

It is essential to identify young people in the initial stages of radicalisation at the earliest possible point, to enable appropriate support and engagement by community members, service providers and agencies and to reduce or remove the need for law enforcement intervention. This should extend to young people who may not yet be attached to an ideology but are seeking out extremist, gory or violent content.

Addressing the needs of young people is fundamentally tied to reducing the risk of their involvement in harmful activities, including violent extremism. To prevent engagement in violent extremist ideologies, young people need to build positive identity attachments and shape their experiences in a healthy way. It is important that government and community at all levels support young people to navigate the changing environment.

Identifying and addressing the needs of young people early, supporting their connection to positive narratives about society and their place in it, and supporting meaningful engagement across all aspects of life, is critical to reducing and re-directing away from engaging with destructive behaviours including violent extremism. These needs are complex and can vary, from social connection, identity, relationships and belonging, to concern for the future and a changing world.

WHAT WE ARE ALREADY DOING

The **Youth and Mental Health Advisory Group** enables leading practitioners in countering violent extremism, mental health, youth, education and social services, as well as policy experts to support the sharing of best practice, map capabilities, build capacity and provide advice to the Australia-New Zealand Counter-Terrorism Committee (ANZCTC) (see page 29 for more detail on the ANZCTC) to promote a holistic consideration of issues relating to youth and mental health in violent extremism.

WHAT WE WILL STRENGTHEN

- Incorporate youth perspectives in CVE policies and programs, particularly on awareness raising initiatives to ensure they reach and resonate with young people. Increased engagement with youth through establishing a youth-led Advisory Group on Enhancing Youth Resilience to ensure the Government's approach to violent extremism incorporates youth perspectives.
    - This group would work alongside the Youth and Mental Health Advisory Group to provide joined-up advice to government on how we can improve policy responses to youth issues related to violent extremism – including by providing input to conferences, workshops and the development of CVE programs. This work focusses on disengaging youth from violent extremist ideas throughout the whole system, from identifying early signs and risk factors of becoming radicalised to violent extremism, or providing support to return to a community after a violent extremist event.
- Build a greater understanding of the impact of gender on violent extremism through stronger data and reporting processes and more effective analysis. A new collection model is in development to capture the breadth of national CVE clients including gender based extremism and violence, and targets of grievance such as women and LGBT+.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

ENCOURAGE ONLINE SAFETY

The eSafety Commissioner has produced a number of resources for young people, parents and carers, classroom resources for educators, and communities, about managing online spaces with young people and children, and how to teach online safety.

COMMUNICATE

Family, friends and communities can help a person who is trying to disengage from violent extremism by:

- Maintaining open, honest communication,
- Rejecting the negative behaviour but accepting the person,
- Helping them to relate to people in a positive way,
- Helping them find constructive ways to pursue their cause,
- Helping them get professional support for any physical or emotional issues, and
- Helping them discover who they are and how to positively express their identity.

ENGAGE

- Engage with state and territory-based intervention programs, which support people to disengage from violent behaviour and movements and reconnect with their communities. This includes programs like the Step Together program – available to individuals in all jurisdictions:
    - **Phone:** 1800 875 204 (available 9am - 5pm AEST Monday to Friday)
    - **Website:** StepTogether.nsw.gov.au (prior to the national rollout)
- Engage with social and health services, including education and employment services, housing services, mental health and counselling, religious and cultural centres, and youth community centres.
- Engage with Kids Helpline, which provides counselling for young Australians aged 5 to 25 no matter who they are, where they live or what they want to talk about.
    - **Phone:** 1800 55 1800 (available 24/7)

Reducing access to violent extremist content online

Technology and online platforms continue to accelerate the rate in which we receive information about the world around us. The nature of how we interact with technology increasingly varies, and un-moderated sources of information are exploited by those seeking to spread violent extremist content, with the intent to put others on the path to violent extremism and seek financial gain through monetisation of these social media platforms.

In addition, the more complex online environment is changing the perception of who is performing the radicalising and recruitment. Increasingly diverse actors, including youth are generating and sharing violent extremist material. This material targets both other youth and adults. The increasing prevalence of youth generating violent extremist material is challenging the idea of a vulnerable youth being taken advantage of by a trusted adult.

ONLINE GAMING

The growth of online gaming has also seen the emergence of gaming-adjacent platforms. This includes platforms where users livestream their video game footage, provide commentary or where likeminded users across the same game or multiple different games can easily communicate with one another across different servers.

Like other digital platforms, violent extremists who have been de-platformed off mainstream gaming platforms may congregate to alternative gaming platforms that are less willing or able to effectively moderate content. While the net reach of violent extremist content is reduced, the concentration of violent extremist actors on alt-tech platforms can facilitate a more volatile environment that can accelerate ideological radicalisation. Real time in-stream chats/content and private groups may not be effectively moderated and instead rely upon users or viewers to report the content or radicalised user to the platform for review and action.

Strong partnerships between governments, educators, industry, relevant researchers and civil society groups are essential to better understand and respond to these challenges. We will do more to develop the necessary partnerships between governments, industry, researchers and communities to address these and emerging challenges.

For example, working with the larger platforms to continue to make safety improvements, as well as supporting smaller, alt-tech platforms to improve moderation of content and participation in regulatory frameworks.

WHAT WE ARE ALREADY DOING

Australia has a strong legislative basis for action which is getting stronger. The **Online Safety Act** gives the eSafety Commissioner powers to protect Australians from online harm, including by requiring digital platforms to remove, cease linking to, cease hosting or cease providing access to certain material. An independent review of the Online Safety Act was brought forward by one year to ensure it is fit for purpose, and adequately captures the emerging and changing online environment, including social media, gaming platforms and alternative influences. The Government will legislate a digital duty of care as a first step to strengthen the Act. The **Abhorrent Violent Material** provisions in the Criminal Code impose penalties on internet service providers, content service providers and hosting services providers who do not take down material depicting abhorrent violent conduct, which includes terrorist acts.

The **Extremism Insights team** within the Department of Home Affairs reviews a wide range of public facing social media platforms and reports terrorist and violent extremist content to the platforms for moderation and removal. Between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2024, the team referred 17,295 instances of terrorist and violent extremist content to digital platforms for removal consideration against their terms of service.

Since 2021, Australia has been a member of the **Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT)**, an internet initiative to share proprietary information and technology for content moderation. In 2024, Australia joined the GIFCT's Independent Advisory Committee which provides guidance to the GIFCT's Operating Board and will enable Australia to contribute meaningful guidance and strategic recommendations to the GIFCT.

Australia is a member of the **Christchurch Call Foundation**, a global initiative advocating for new policies and practices, better transparency, new tools deployed across the community, crisis protocols, and action to combat the drivers of terrorism and violent extremism and the removal of online terrorist content.

In 2022, Australia worked with Microsoft on its **Gaming Safety Toolkit** which provides both general and age-specific advice on promoting positive gaming behaviour and mechanisms for addressing toxic, harmful and age-inappropriate content.

Australia works closely with the **Extremism and Gaming Research Network (EGRN)**, which was established in 2021 in an effort to bring together researchers, practitioners, government policymakers and digital industry to share insights and further develop an understanding of current and emerging threats and solutions against the exploitation of gaming platforms by terrorists and violent extremists.

WHAT WE WILL STRENGTHEN

- Improve regulation of the online environment, including measures for responding to the creation and distribution of terrorist and violent extremist propaganda and instructional material, including through the office of the eSafety Commissioner, continued implementation of the Online Safety Act and strengthening the Act by legislating a digital duty of care.
- Existing online monitoring will be greatly enhanced with the Department's recent engagement (since 18 November 2024) with the not-for-profit organisation Online Harms Foundation (also known as Tech against Terrorism) which will provide a 24/7 capability which will strengthen referral and response capacity against terrorist and violent extremist content.
- Protect young Australians online by focusing on relationships with technology companies to support the removal of abhorrent, violent or terrorist material from online platforms.
- Reduce individuals' exposure to online materials designed to recruit others to violent extremism by proactively identifying extremist material, enhancing take down legislation and maximising enforcement capabilities.
- Establishing pathways to engage young people and their peers, to reduce the impact of online harms.
- Incorporate youth perspectives in online policy approaches to CVE, particularly on awareness raising initiatives to ensure they reach and resonate with young people online.
- Engage with industry and international partners to identify methods to combat use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) by terrorist organisations, and how AI can assist in combatting extremism online.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

ENGAGE WITH PEOPLE ABOUT ONLINE ACTIVITES AND GAMING SAFELY

- It is important that parents and guardians are aware of the extent of gaming activities and online use undertaken by their children and are also aware of the various risks faced when engaging with social media platforms and gaming online, to enable appropriate harm-reducing practices. Examples of actions parents and guardians can take include:
    - Placing parental controls on devices to prevent excessive screen time and in-app or in-game purchasing.
    - Ensuring computers are set up in family areas and access to devices is limited to eliminate or minimise unsupervised use – for example ensuring children access devices in family living areas rather than in bedrooms or closed rooms where they cannot be supervised.
    - Having open and non-judgmental conversations about the risks from various online behaviours (e.g. grooming), identifying inappropriate behaviour and what to do when confronted with inappropriate content and behaviour (e.g. reporting behaviour, blocking users, managing privacy settings).
    - Promoting positive behaviours and being mindful of sudden or gradual changes in time online, behaviour(s) and appearance(s) during gaming or after participating in online gaming or social media use.

- The Gaming Safely Toolkit is designed to support parents in understanding and talking to their children about online gaming safely.
- The eSafety Commissioner website has resources for parents on speaking to children and teenagers about online safety and staying safe online.

REPORT ONLINE DEPICTIONS OF EXTREME VIOLENCE OR ACTS OF TERRORISM

- The eSafety Commissioner has produced a number of resources related to harmful or disturbing online content.
- You can report your concerns about content directly to digital platforms so they can consider removal against their terms of service.
- You can also anonymously report illegal and restricted online content either through the National Security Hotline or to eSafety directly.
- If appropriate, eSafety may issue a 'takedown' notice to protect you and others from seeing this material. There are also resources on managing the impacts of illegal and restricted online content if you are exposed to material showing violence or acts of terrorism.

Managing enduring and emerging threats

Countering violent extremism and terrorism requires constant vigilance. All levels of government need to work together seamlessly with the support of effective laws and frameworks. The system must also be flexible to meet the evolving environment. As new challenges emerge, there is a need to reconsider what we do and how we do it, and continuously improve our response to enduring, new and emerging threats.

Our current system for preventing and responding to terrorism is mature and works effectively. Our world-class law enforcement, security and intelligence agencies continue to work with domestic and international partners to identify, investigate and disrupt individuals planning acts of terrorism and respond to terrorism-related incidents. The Government will continue to work to adapt our counter-terrorism laws to ensure they remain fit for purpose in the changing security environment.

Our national intervention programs are also well established in providing early support for vulnerable people who are at-risk of violent extremism and to high risk individuals in custodial settings. There is an opportunity for these programs to grow to ensure holistic support is available to those who need it regardless of whether they are in the community or in custodial settings. This may include support from a range of community organisations, including community leaders, psychologists, employment services, and health providers as well as social and cultural activities. Referrals can be made through the National Security Hotline, police, or health and education providers.

WHAT WE ARE ALREADY DOING

Australian law enforcement, intelligence and security agencies are equipped with the **legal frameworks and capabilities** needed to identify and counter violent extremist and terrorist threats, support early intervention, enable disruption, provide emergency responses and investigate and prosecute where necessary. This includes the enduring function of the Joint Counter-Terrorism Teams that exist in all states and territories and consist of the AFP, the relevant state and territory police, ASIO and in NSW, the NSW Crime Commission. The Joint Counter-Terrorism Teams were established to ensure a coordinated and collaborative multijurisdictional approach to combatting terrorism.

Under Australia's anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regime, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) supervises regulated businesses under the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006*. The AML/CTF regime aims to ensure Australia's compliance with international standards set by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). This includes suspicious matter reporting, which may include reports of suspected terrorism financing that occurs both domestically and internationally. AUSTRAC works with domestic government and industry partners as well as overseas counterparts to protect Australia's financial system from being used for the purposes of terrorism financing, and to support operational efforts to counter terrorist threats. On 29 November 2024, the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Amendment Bill 2024 passed the Parliament. The Bill simplifies and modifies Australia's anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing regime and extends it to additional high-risk services, such as lawyers, accountants and real estate professionals. The Bill aims to ensure the regime can more effectively deter, detect and disrupt money laundering and terrorism financing and meet international stands set by the FATF.

The Government is **Building Industry Partnerships to Combat Violent Extremism Online** which aims to strengthen relationships between government and private industry in the online space. These relationships work to enhance cooperation with private sector organisations to reduce extremist content and improve the online environment so it is less conducive to radicalisation.

WHAT WE WILL STRENGTHEN

- Streamline interventions across the spectrum of violent extremism and terrorism by uplifting Australia's countering violent extremism intervention programs, the **Living Safe Together Intervention Program (LSTIP) and the High-Risk Reintegration and Rehabilitation Program (HRRRP) into a single National Support and Intervention Program** to streamline resources and management.
- Focus on early intervention by providing greater investment in CVE programs to deliver targeted best practice programs to those at risk of violent extremism.
- Equip and support Australia's cohort of CVE practitioners to deliver interventions to reduce the risk of growing extremist pathways to violence. This will enable more effective disruption of those turning to extremist violence.
- Establish nationally consistent standards in training, needs assessments and evaluation processes and tools. This will ensure continual review and refinement, so programs remain dynamic to the changing environment and are continually updated to meet internationally recognised best practice.
- Continue to support our intelligence and security functions as key aspects of the terrorism apparatus. We will review and where necessary adapt our counter-terrorism laws and frameworks to ensure they are fit for purpose in responding to the evolving security environment and continue appropriate resource allocation for disruption of and response to terrorism and violent extremism incidents.
- Provide guidance for family, friends and community leaders where legislation differs between the Commonwealth and a state or territory, such as the minimum age of criminal responsibility.

Strengthening domestic and international partnerships

The terrorist threat transcends borders and requires a whole-of-nation and global community response. Significant events and instability overseas provide opportunities for terrorists and violent extremists to advance their causes. It can generate new tensions or inflame existing ones. Our partnerships with governments, international organisations, civil society, the private sector and industry partners, domestically and internationally are vital to our capacity to protect Australians and our national interests.

These partnerships help to keep Australians safe from violent extremism as they go about their day-to-day lives, including online. They also help mitigate the disruption and financial costs that terrorism and violent extremism can wreak on businesses.

We continue to ensure that these arrangements evolve to meet the changing threat environment, including online spaces.

WHAT WE ARE ALREADY DOING

We work with our international partners to share information that can save lives and prevent harm, either through direct intelligence and law enforcement cooperation, or through longer-term norm setting, and capacity and resilience building activities.

Our international partnerships also enable us to share limited resources to best effect. We work with key partners, including our Five Eyes counterparts (an intelligence sharing arrangement between Australia, US, UK, Canada, and New Zealand), to share lifesaving information and direct resources to best effect. Through the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIL, we are working with 87 Coalition partners to eliminate the threats posed by ISIL across the globe, including coordinated efforts to counter ISIL financing, travel, and propaganda.

Our partners provide insights that helps us understand the evolving threat environment. Through partnerships such as the ASEAN-Australia Counter-Terrorism Dialogue we learn from our neighbours and support deeper analysis of counter-terrorism threats and challenges in Southeast Asia, and drive closer regional cooperation, information sharing, and communicating best practices.

Through our counter-terrorism cooperation with partners we can achieve outcomes much greater than we can achieve on our own. We work through multilateral fora such as the United Nations to set global norms and undertake collective action on global and interconnected issues, such as our work to counter terrorist financing through coordinated counter terrorism financial sanctions imposed on individuals and groups through the global financial system.

Resilient communities are built by a range of actors, including civil society, industry and academia. Through partners such as the GIFCT we work with technology companies, civil society and academics to counter terrorist use of the internet and the spread of terrorist and violent extremist content online.

We also work directly with a range of community organisations, and through partners such as the United Nations and its inspired institutions, to support communities to implement activities that prevent and counter violent extremism and are responsive and appropriate to local threats and needs.

In addition to preventing harm to Australians and our national interests, this work also helps mitigate against the risk of strategic shocks and surprises that may draw limited response and recovery resources away from other national priorities.

The information and lessons we gain from these and other engagements are brought back to Australia to enhance our understanding of current and emerging threats, and inform best practice approaches to prevention, response, recovery and resilience.

In addition, Commonwealth, state and territory governments work directly with a range of academic and research institutions both domestically and globally. Engagement and collaboration with academia is critical for developing and supporting the evidence base for policy and practice, extending across a wide range of issues including understanding, countering and preventing terrorism and violent extremism.

Collaborative partnerships, programs, information sharing, training, exercising and testing between Commonwealth, state, and territory agencies help mitigate the risk of terrorism and violent extremism. In addition, strong partnerships allow governance and accountability to adapt as environments change.

COORDINATION OF GOVERNMENT EFFORTS

The Australia-New Zealand Counter-Terrorism Committee (ANZCTC) is a partnership between the Commonwealth, state and territory governments, and a bilateral relationship with New Zealand. The ANZCTC works with all jurisdictions, together with communities and the private sector, to enhance the effectiveness of Australia's counter-terrorism efforts.

This partnership focusses on enabling nationally consistent approaches to countering terrorism, with an emphasis on interoperability. It also works to ensure effective cooperation, coordination and consultation between all relevant agencies in all jurisdictions across the crisis management continuum.

The ANZCTC also administers a dedicated fund investing in building capacity and supporting counter-terrorism practitioners through coordination of skills and capability enhancement, research, training and evaluation projects.

WHAT WE WILL STRENGTHEN

We remain firmly committed to working with our international partners and organisations to prevent and counter violent extremism.

- Further strengthen our counter-terrorism partnerships and capability in our region through collaboration and information exchange with our regional partners, including ASEAN Member States.
- Promote international information sharing and uplifting interoperability and intelligence capabilities as appropriate by strengthening our trusted relationships with key partners and enhancing our collective response to global threats.
- Develop a stronger and safer online environment for all by building closer partnerships with industry to support compliance and encourage greater accountability for the online information environment.
- Develop stronger communication systems to ensure relevant information and international research reaches the practitioners and program managers involved in countering violent extremist programs in Australia.
- Enhance responses to terrorism and violent extremism in the online environment by continuing to work with leading civil society groups including the Christchurch Call Foundation, industry partners, the GIFCT and innovative groups such as Tech Against Terrorism to enhance responses to the online environment.

Action Plan

The action plan is a series of steps that will be taken to achieve the outcomes in the Strategy. It is how the Government will achieve targets, providing clear guidance to affected agencies, groups, and communities.

1 Awareness raising, education and strengthening our support services

- Enhance Australian community awareness by providing clear and consistent communication about the threats to Australia, empowering individuals to identify and connect susceptible community members to support services.
- Strengthen support to people, including youth with vulnerability to violent extremist ideologies, to disengage persons from violent extremism by guiding them towards tailored treatment pathways through the new National Support and Intervention Program.
- Enhance information and advisory resources on the Step Together website to equip our community to identify and counter violent extremist narratives.

2 Supporting and increasing capability in our communities

- Support community resilience by providing easy to access resources through the development of a national referral and resource website.
- Invest in initiatives to address the impacts of mis and disinformation, including that which perpetuates violent extremist narratives.
- Continue to support the rehabilitation and reintegration of convicted high-risk terrorist offenders into the community through joined-up services.
- Develop stronger data and reporting processes to build a greater understanding of the impact of gender on violent extremism through more effective analysis.
- Update ESCAPE. HIDE. TELL. resources to improve accessibility for indigenous people, people with a disability and CALD communities.

3 Enhancing national approaches

- Ongoing development of expert advice on young people and radicalisation to violence by establishing research priorities for Commonwealth investment and support best practice initiatives and interventions.
- Conduct a review of our existing frameworks, systems and processes to determine whether they are fit for purpose to meet new and emerging threats.
- Co-design CVE policies and programs with young people to ensure that they are relevant and tailored towards youth.
- Build awareness and understanding of behavioural indicators of violent extremism based on empirical evidence and robust research.
- Provide enhanced pathways for diversion and intervention within the NSIP Program.
- Establish nationally consistent standards in training, risk assessment and evaluation processes and tools.
- Deliver targeted best practice CVE programs to those on a path to radicalisation.

4 Strengthening our technological capabilities and legislative frameworks to counter and remove extremist content online

- Improve regulation of the online environment through the eSafety Commissioner, including by legislating a digital duty of care and considering further measures for responding to the creation and distribution of terrorist and violent extremist propaganda and instructional material.
- Build strong relationships and cooperation with technology companies to support the development and inclusion of clauses in their terms of service that support the removal of abhorrent, violent or terrorist material from online platforms.
- Proactively identify violent extremist material, enhance take down legislation and maximise enforcement capabilities.
- Address mis and disinformation with evidence-based approaches.
- Engage with industry and international partners to identify methods to combat use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) by terrorist organisations, and how AI can assist in combatting extremism online.

5 Deepen relationships and collaboration with industry, government agencies, academia and international partners.

- Equip and support CVE practitioners to deliver interventions and more effective disruption of pathways to radicalisation.
- Strengthen our international and regional partnerships and continue cooperation to build capability in Southeast Asia.
- Support exchange on best practice and enhance our collective response to global threats.

Resources

To report a security concern:

NATIONAL SECURITY HOTLINE
PHONE WITHIN AUSTRALIA: 1800 123 400
PHONE OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA: +61 1300 123 401
TELETYPEWRITER: 1800 234 889
SMS: 0429 771 822
EMAIL: HOTLINE@NATIONALSECURITY.GOV.AU

TO REPORT ONLINE MATERIAL

Where possible report material directly to the platform the material is on, such as the social media site.

Refer material to the eSafety Commissioner for review and possible take down:

Website: esafety.gov.au/report/forms

IF THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE THREAT TO LIFE OR PROPERTY:

Phone: 000

Text: 106

If you can't speak English you can call Triple Zero (000) from a fixed line and ask for 'Police', 'Fire', or 'Ambulance'. Once connected you need to stay on the line and a translator will be organised.

In the event of an attack follow the ESCAPE. HIDE. TELL. principles to keep yourself and others around you safe. For more information on what to do in an attack go to www.nationalsecurity.gov.au/what-can-i-do/what-to-do-in-an-attack

FOR FURTHER RESOURCES IF YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT SOMEONE:

Step Together – available for individuals in all jurisdictions

Phone: 1800 875 204 (available 9am - 5pm AEST Monday to Friday)

Website: StepTogether.nsw.gov.au (prior to the national rollout)

Kids Helpline provides counselling for young Australians aged 5 to 25 no matter who they are, where they live or what they want to talk about.

Phone: 1800 55 1800 (available 24/7)

Lifeline provides free, 24-hour telephone crisis support service in Australia.

Phone: 13 11 14 (available 24/7)

SPEAKING TO YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT ONLINE SPACES:

The eSafety Commissioner has produced resources for parents and caregivers on speaking to children and young people of all ages about online safety, including a free monthly newsletter:

Website: esafety.gov.au/parents

Resources for educators on talking to children about being online safely, including teachers and community leaders, is available at:

Website: www.esafety.gov.au/educators

GAMING SAFELY:

Work by the EGRN, including work on combatting hate and building positive, resilient gaming communities is available at:

Website: ExtremismAndGaming.org

The Microsoft Xbox '**Gaming Safety Toolkit**' was produced in conjunction with a number of not for profit and government organisations, and provides easy to follow and practical advice for parents on talking to young people and understanding their online gaming experience. It includes instructions on activating parental controls and having difficult conversations. It can be found by searching 'gaming safety toolkit Australia' on your internet browser.

TRANSLATING AND INTERPRETING SERVICES

The National Translating and Interpreting Service has a panel of credentialed interpreters speaking more than 150 languages who can provide immediate translating services:

Website: www.tisnational.gov.au

Phone within Australia: 131 450

Phone outside Australia: +61 3 9268 8332